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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,851	12/30/2003	Ingo Zenz	6570P017	9437

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER
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RAYYAN, SUSAN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2167

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/06/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/749,851	<b>Applicant(s)</b> ZENZ, INGO	
	<b>Examiner</b> Susan F. Rayyan	<b>Art Unit</b> 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

*Susan F. Rayyan*  
3/26/07

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 14, 2007 has been entered.

2. Claims 1-22 are pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1-13, 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0124082 issued to Ramon J. San Andres et al ("San Andres") in view of US 7,096,465 issued to Steven Dardinski et al ("Dardinski").**

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As per claim 1 San Andres teaches:

A plurality of server nodes communicatively coupled on a network to serve applications over the network to a plurality of clients (paragraph 6, Figures 1-2);

a data object to store a hierarchical representation of configuration data associated with the server nodes, the data object having a root and a plurality of nodes branching from the root (paragraph 20, Figure 2);

a property sheet data structure logically positioned at one of the nodes, the property sheet data structure including a plurality of property names, wherein each respective property name included in the property sheet data structure is associated with a default parameter and, optionally, a custom parameter value (paragraphs 65, 165 and Figure 6).

San Andres does not explicitly teach a user interface to display contents of the property sheet data structure, the user interface to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter. Dardinski does teach a user interface to display contents of the property sheet data structure, the user interface to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value (column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter

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value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value ( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter ( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved) to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify San Andres with property sheet data structure, the user interface to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems as described by Dardinski (column 2, lines 65-67).

As per claim 2, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein the data object is stored within a central database accessible by each of the server nodes (Figure 1).

As per claim 3, same as claim arguments above and Dardinski teaches:

wherein, once the selected modifiable parameter has been modified, the default parameter is stored independently with respect to the custom parameters in the property sheet data structure( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved).

As per claim 4, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein the default parameters associated with the property sheet data structure are modifiable using an interface other than the user interface (paragraph 168).

As per claim 5, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein the property sheet data structure is associated with a particular component or a set of components contained within a clustered system (paragraph 168).

As per claim 6, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

a first dialog box to display contents of the property sheet data structure, the first dialog box including a plurality of entry rows, each respective entry row of the first dialog box including a first column to display names of corresponding properties, a second column to display current configuration parameter values associated with corresponding properties and a third column to indicate if a configuration parameter value displayed in the second column is a default parameter or a custom parameter (paragraphs 126,186 and Figure 2); a second dialog box including a data entry field to enable a user to modify a selected default or custom parameter value(paragraph 168).

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As per claim 7, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein a custom parameter associated with a property is modifiable by selecting the second dialog box of the corresponding property and entering a new parameter in the data entry field of the second dialog box (paragraph 165).

As per claim 8, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein the second dialog box of the corresponding property is selected by clicking a custom check box inside the third column of a corresponding entry row (paragraphs 126,165).

As per claim 9, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

wherein the second dialog box further includes a name field to display a name of a corresponding property and a default field to display a default configuration parameter associated with the corresponding property(paragraphs 126, 165).

As per claim 10, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:

the second dialog box further includes a data type field to display the data type associated with corresponding property (Figure 5, property types).

As per claim 11 San Andres teaches:

storing binaries and configuration data (Figure 6a) associated with a plurality of server nodes within a data object to store a hierarchical representation of configuration data associated with the server nodes, the data object having a root and a plurality of nodes branching from the root (paragraph 20, Figure 1-2 and paragraph 6);  
providing one or more property sheets at one or more of the nodes, each of the property sheets including a plurality of configuration parameters associated with the server nodes, each parameter associated with a name, a default parameter value and optionally a custom parameter value .

San Andres does not explicitly teach updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, associating the name with the custom parameter value but I preserving the value of the default parameter. Dardinski does teach updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node value ( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and wherein in response to the user



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specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values), associating the name with the custom parameter value but preserving the value of the default parameter ( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved) to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify San Andres with updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, associating the name with the custom parameter value but I preserving the value of the default parameter Dardinski to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems as described by Dardinski (column 2 lines 65-67).

As per claim 12, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: storing the data object, configuration data, binaries and property sheets within a central database, the central database accessible by the server nodes (Figure 1).

As per claim 13, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: opening the property sheet in a property sheet graphical user interface, the graphical user interface comprising a first column for storing parameter

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names, a second column for storing a current parameter value and a third column for storing an indication as to whether the current parameter value is a custom value or a default value (paragraphs 126, 186 and Figures 2, 5); selecting the indication in the third column, responsively generating a data entry window having a custom field for entering a custom value and receiving user entry of a custom value in the custom field (paragraph 165).

As per claim 18 San Andres teaches:

server node means communicatively coupled on a network, the server node means to serve applications over the network to a plurality of clients (paragraphs 6, 20, Figure 2);

hierarchical data object means to store a hierarchical representation of configuration data associated with the server nodes, the hierarchical data object means having a root and a plurality of nodes branching from the root (paragraph 20, Figure 2);

property sheet means logically positioned at one of the nodes, the property sheet means including a plurality of property names, wherein each respective property name included in the property sheet means is associated with a default parameter value and, optionally, a custom parameter value (paragraphs 65, 165 and Figure 6).

San Andres does not explicitly teach a user interface means to display contents of the property sheet means to enable a user to change a default parameter value

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associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter.

Dardinski does teach a user interface means to display contents of the property sheet means to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value ( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value ( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter ( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved) to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify San Andres with user interface to display property sheet means to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name to a custom parameter value and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, the name is associated with the custom parameter value but the property sheet data structure still preserves the value of the default parameter to

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facilitate configuring large or complex control systems as described by Dardinski (column 2, lines 65-67).

As per claim 19, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: wherein the hierarchical data object means is stored within a central database accessible by each of the server nodes(Figure 1).

As per claim 20, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: wherein, once the selected default parameter has been modified, the default parameter is stored independently with respect to the custom parameters in the property sheet means( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved).

As per claim 21, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: wherein the custom parameter values associated with the property sheet means are not user-modifiable via the user interface (paragraph 168).

As per claim 22, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches: wherein the property sheet means is associated with a particular component or a set of components contained within the server node means(paragraph 168).

**Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over San Andres in view of Dardinski as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view US Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0148183 issued to Waqar Sadiq ("Sadiq").**

As per claim 14, same as claim arguments above and San Andres in view of Dardinski do not explicitly teach wherein the server nodes are Java server nodes supporting the Java 2 Enterprise Edition ("J2EE") standard and wherein the property sheet parameters comprise J2EE parameters. Sadiq does teach wherein the server nodes are Java server nodes supporting the Java 2 Enterprise Edition ("J2EE") standard and wherein the property sheet parameters comprise J2EE parameters (paragraph 18, property sheet and paragraphs 104,140, J2EE) to provide efficient communication. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify San Andres in view of Dardinski with wherein the server nodes are Java server nodes supporting the Java 2 Enterprise Edition ("J2EE") standard and wherein the property sheet parameters comprise J2EE parameters to provide efficient communication.

**Claim 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0124082 issued to Ramon J. San Andres et al ("San Andres") in view of in view of US 7,096,465 issued to Steven Dardinski et al ("Dardinski") in view of US Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0069272 issued to Steven D. Kim ("Kim").**

As per claim 15 San Andres teaches:

storing binaries and configuration data (Figure 6a) associated with a plurality of server nodes within a data object to store a hierarchical representation of configuration data associated with the server nodes, the data object having a root and a plurality of nodes branching from the root (paragraph 20, Figure 1-2 and paragraph 6);

providing one or more property sheets at one or more of the nodes, each of the property sheets including a plurality of configuration parameters associated with the server nodes, each parameter associated with a name, a default parameter value and optionally a custom parameter value .

San Andres does not explicitly teach updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, associating the name with the custom parameter value but preserving the value of

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the default parameter. Dardinski does teach updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node value ( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values) and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name( column 16, lines 39-56, Figures 10-12, as user interface to edit property sheet parameter values), associating the name with the custom parameter value but preserving the value of the default parameter ( column 86, lines 37-47, as both custom parameter values and default parameter values are saved) to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify San Andres with updating the configuration of one of the server nodes by receiving a parameter update request from a user via a user interface and responsively entering a custom configuration parameter value in a property sheet associated with the server node and wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, associating the name with the custom parameter value but preserving the value of the default parameter to facilitate configuring large or complex control systems as described by Dardinski (column 2 lines 65-67).

San Andres in view of Dardinski do not explicitly teach communicating an indication of the configuration parameter update to one or more other server nodes,

identifying in the data object associated with the updated configuration parameters within the property sheet and determining if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date, downloading the updated configuration data from the central database to the other server nodes if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date. Kim does teach communicating an indication of the modification to one or more other server nodes (paragraph 34), identifying in the data object the modified configuration parameters within the property sheet and determining if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date (paragraph 35), downloading the modified configuration data from the central database to the other server nodes if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date (paragraph 11,35) to improve speed and efficiency of matching server configuration (paragraph 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify San Andres in view of Dardinski with communicating an indication of the modification to one or more other server nodes, identifying in the data object the modified configuration parameters within the property sheet and determining if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date, downloading the modified configuration data from the central database to the other server nodes if the configuration data stored on the other server nodes is out-of-date to improve speed and efficiency of matching server configuration as described by Kim (paragraph 10).

As per claim 16 same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:  
acquiring a lock on the configuration parameters stored within the property



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sheet prior to updating the configuration parameters at the first server node (paragraphs 151-152).

As per claim 17, same as claim arguments above and San Andres teaches:  
releasing the lock on the configuration parameters after the configuration  
data has been updated at the central database and/or at each of the other server  
nodes (paragraphs 151-152).

#### **Response to Arguments**

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

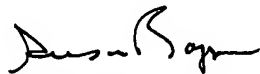
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**Contact Information**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Rayyan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1675. The examiner can normally be reached M-F: 8am - 4:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Susan Rayyan

March 26, 2007



JOHN COTTINGHAM  
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